



Christleton High School

24th February 2021

NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for staff and students

Dear Parent/Carer

We are currently in the process of preparing for a safe return for all our students once we come to the end of this national lockdown. You will be aware that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms has taken place in schools across the country using COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests have helped staff and students to remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing, we can help to stop the virus spread, keep our school open as safely as possible and reduce the need for students to self-isolate. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it.

We have tested our staff and those children of critical workers and vulnerable students who are in school and as per Government guidelines will offer 3 onsite rapid tests using Lateral Flow Devices to all other students on their return to school. Please find attached, an instructional leaflet with some more information about the test itself, which you may find useful.

If you are happy for your child to be tested, it is vitally important that you fill in the consent form using the link below. Please note that you will need to complete separate forms if you have more than one child. We would very much appreciate it if you could complete the form as soon as possible and no later than **Monday 1st March 2021**, so that we can begin the registration process.

[Consent form for COVID-19 testing in secondary schools and colleges](#)

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose and throat. For under 18s, staff can oversee the swab process. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with staff and students participating. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed of a positive test result.

What if a student tests positive?

Participating staff and students who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Individuals with a positive lateral flow test result will need to self-isolate in line with the guidance for 'households with possible coronavirus infection'.

What happens if the test is negative?

The student will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. Students will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or 0300 303 2713 (Scotland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other format or if you have any questions. You can call school or email enquiries@christletonhigh.co.uk.

Yours sincerely



D P Jones
Headteacher